

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BEIRUT 13759 161058Z

21

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 CCO-00 /026 W

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O 161020Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1367

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMSCUS IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T BEIRUT 13759

EXDIS

DEPT PASS DIA WASH AND USCINCEUR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PMIL, LE, IS

SUBJECT: LEBANESE MILITARY FEAR IMPENDING IDF ATTACK

REF: BEIRUT 13679

1. LEBANESE ARMY'S DEPUTY COS FOR OPERATIONS (KANAAN) INFORMED EMBOFF MRNING NOVEMBER 16 THAT ARMY HIGH COMMAND IS EXPERIENCING CONSIDERABLE DISQUITE OVER POSSIBILITY THAT IDF MAY BE PREPARING FURTHER, MORE WIDE-RANGING OPERATIONS AGAINST FEDAYEEN IN SOUTH LEBANON. HE NOTED THAT FOLLOWING OMINOUS STATEMENTS MADE BY ISRAELI PERREP TEKOAH IN NEW YORK NOVEMBER 15 AND PRIMIN RABIN'S TOUGH WARNING TO SYRIA SAME DAY, LEBANESE OBSERVERS IN BORDER AREAS HAVE BEGUN REPORTING SIGNS OF "UNUSUAL" IDF ACTIVITY ALONG LEBANESE-ISRAELI FRONTIER. KANAAN WONDERED IF SUCH ACTIVITY HAS COME TO USG'S ATTENTION AND, IF SO, WHETHER WE COULD PROVIDE ANY ESTIMATE OF ISRAELI INTENTIONS.

2. EMBOFF TOLD KANAAN WE HAVE SEEN CERTAIN WIRE SERVICE REPORTS (CARRIED PRIMARILY BY AFP) WHICH MENTION HEIGHTENED IDF ACTIVITY ALONG BORDER, BUT REMINDED HIM THAT SUCH REPORTS HAVE INVARIABLY APPEARED (AND BEEN WITHOUT FOUNDATION) INWAKE OF PAST WARNINGS MADE TO GOL BY SENIOR ISRAELI OFFICIALS.

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3. COMMENT: WE KNOW KANAAN TO BE LEVEL-HEADED OFFICER WHO USUALLY RESISTS TEMPTATION TO BELIEVE WHAT HE READS IN NEWSPAPERS. HOWEVER, HE AND HIS ARMY COLLEAGUES DEFINITELY APPEAR TO HAVE WIND UP ON THIS OCCASION. IT IS PROBABLE THAT INCREASED ISRAELI AIR ACTIVITY OVER SOUTH

LEBANON AND GOLAN IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS. IN ANY EVENT, THEIR APPREHENSION CAN BE REGARDED AS ONE MORE INDICATION OF DEGREE TO WHICH WAR-JITTERS ARE INCREASING IN THIS AREA.

GODLEY

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED DIA OR USCINCEUR.

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MOBILIZATION, MILITARY PLANS, COMBAT OPERATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 16 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Reference:** BEIRUT 13679  
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30 JUN 2005

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LEBANESE MILITARY FEAR IMPENDING IDF ATTACK  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MPOL, LE, IS, (KANAAN)  
**To:** TEL AVIV STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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